STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

INI	RE:	
IIV.	KE.	

Phil Pardue

Map 008-00-0, Parcel 190.00

Residential Property
Tax Years 2005 & 2006

Davidson County

INITIAL DECISION AND ORDER

Statement of the Case

The subject property is presently valued as follows:

<u>LAND VALUE</u> <u>IMPROVEMENT VALUE</u> <u>TOTAL VALUE</u> <u>ASSESSMENT</u> \$21,600 \$ -0- \$21,600 \$5,400

An Appeal has been filed on behalf of the property owner with the State Board of Equalization on September 15, 2005.

This matter was reviewed by the undersigned administrative law judge pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated (T.C.A.) §§ 67-5-1412, 67-5-1501 and 67-5-1505. This hearing was conducted on July 20, 2006, at the Davidson County Property Assessor's Office; present at the hearing were Phil Pardue, the taxpayer who represented himself, and Mr. Jason Poling, Residential Appraiser, Division of Assessments for the Metro. Property Assessor.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Subject property consists of vacant land located at 3905 Baxter Road in Joelton, Tennessee.

The taxpayer, Mr. Pardue, contends that the property is worth \$20,000 based on the fact that he only had 50' road frontage and no road of use for access can be built on 50' base in a very deep and wide hollow that separates his property from Baxter Road. However, it should be noted that the taxpayer owns the adjoining parcels.

The assessor contends that the property should be valued at \$21,600.

The germane issue is the value of the property as of January 1, 2005. The basis of valuation as stated in Tennessee Code Annotated Section 67-5-601(a) is that "[t]he value of all property shall be ascertained from the evidence of its sound, intrinsic and immediate value, for purposes of sale between a willing seller and a willing buyer without consideration of speculative values. . ."

After having reviewed all the evidence in this case, the administrative judge finds that the subject property should be valued at \$21,600 based upon the presumption of

correctness attaching to the decision of the Davidson County Board of Equalization as neither side produced persuasive evidence.

Since the taxpayer is appealing from the determination of the Davidson County Board of Equalization, the burden of proof is on the taxpayer. See State Board of Equalization Rule 0600-1-.11(1) and *Big Fork Mining Company v. Tennessee Water Quality Control Board*, 620 S.W.2d 515 (Tenn. App. 1981).

With respect to the issue of market value, the administrative judge finds that Mr. Pardue¹ simply introduced insufficient evidence to affirmatively establish the market value of subject property as of January 1, 2005, the relevant assessment date pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 67-5-504(a).

In analyzing the arguments of the taxpayer, the administrative judge must also look to the applicable and acceptable standards in the industry when comparing the sales of similar properties. The arguments pro-offered by the taxpayer were not supported by appropriate data.

The administrative judge finds that the procedure normally utilized in the sales comparison approach has been summarized in one authoritative text as follows:

To apply the sales comparison approach, an appraiser follows a systematic procedure.

- Research the competitive market for information on sales transactions, listings, and offers to purchase or sell involving properties that are similar to the subject property in terms of characteristics such as property type, date of sale, size, physical condition, location, and land use constraints. The goal is to find a set of comparable sales as similar as possible to the subject property.
- Verify the information by confirming that the data obtained is factually accurate and that the transactions reflect arm's-length, market considerations. Verification may elicit additional information about the market.
- Select relevant units of comparison (e.g., price per acre, price per square foot, price per front foot) and develop a comparative analysis for each unit. The goal here is to define and identify a unit of comparison that explains market behavior.
- 4. Look for differences between the comparable sale properties and the subject property using the elements of comparison. Then adjust the price of each sale property to reflect how it differs from the subject property or eliminate that property as a comparable. This step typically involves using the most comparable sale properties and then adjusting for any remaining differences.
- 5. Reconcile the various value indications produced from the analysis of comparables into a single value indication or a range of values.

[Emphasis supplied]

¹ In this case the taxpayer failed to do this exercise to show the diminished value of his property.

Appraisal Institute, *The Appraisal of Real Estate* at 422 (12th ed. 2001). *Andrew B. & Marjorie S. Kjellin*, (Shelby County, Tax Year 2005).

ORDER

It is therefore ORDERED that the following value and assessment be adopted for tax years 2005 and 2006:

 LAND VALUE
 IMPROVEMENT VALUE
 TOTAL VALUE
 ASSESSMENT

 \$21,600
 \$ -0 \$21,600
 \$5,400

It is FURTHER ORDERED that any applicable hearing costs be assessed pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 67-5-1501(d) and State Board of Equalization Rule 0600-1-.17.

Pursuant to the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 4-5-301—325, Tenn. Code Ann. § 67-5-1501, and the Rules of Contested Case Procedure of the State Board of Equalization, the parties are advised of the following remedies:

- 1. A party may appeal this decision and order to the Assessment Appeals
 Commission pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 67-5-1501 and Rule 0600-1-.12 of the
 Contested Case Procedures of the State Board of Equalization. Tennessee Code
 Annotated § 67-5-1501(c) provides that an appeal "must be filed within thirty (30) days
 from the date the initial decision is sent." Rule 0600-1-.12 of the Contested Case
 Procedures of the State Board of Equalization provides that the appeal be filed with the
 Executive Secretary of the State Board and that the appeal "identify the allegedly
 erroneous finding(s) of fact and/or conclusion(s) of law in the initial order"; or
- 2. A party may petition for reconsideration of this decision and order pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-5-317 within fifteen (15) days of the entry of the order. The petition for reconsideration must state the specific grounds upon which relief is requested. The filling of a petition for reconsideration is not a prerequisite for seeking administrative or judicial review; or
- 3. A party may petition for a stay of effectiveness of this decision and order pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-5-316 within seven (7) days of the entry of the order.

This order does not become final until an official certificate is issued by the Assessment Appeals Commission. Official certificates are normally issued seventy-five (75) days after the entry of the initial decision and order if no party has appealed.

ENTERED this 24th day of August, 2006.

ANDREI ELLEN LEE

ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF STATE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES DIVISION

c: Mr. Phil Pardue Jo Ann North, Property Assessor